LOMAU.122C1 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Applicant** 

Yong Hua Zhu, et al.

Appl. No.

10/614,650

Filed

: July 7, 2003

For

DEVICE FOR CLOSING TISSUE

**OPENINGS** 

Examiner

Melanie J. Hand

Group Art Unit

3761

## AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

## Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action transmitted June 19, 2008, in further response to the Advisory Action transmitted November 11, 2008, and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, please reconsider the above-identified application in light . of the following amendments and remarks.

This Amendment is similar to the Amendment After Final Office Action filed by Applicants on September 19, 2008, but which was not entered by the Examiner. The substantive difference between this Amendment and the previously-filed Amendment is that this paper includes an argument that the amendment to Claim 21 does not add new matter. This Amendment is intended to replace the previously-filed Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.